whereas out export is only of about Rs. 400 crores. So, we have taken all these steps to step up our exports in Ayurvedic medicines.

SHRI ARJAN SINGH: The Ayurvedic system of medicines originated in this country. ...(*Interruptions*)... My request is that there should be a Short Duration Discussion on this subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You give a notice.

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: Sir, the Ayurvedic system of medicines is very, very effective. I have no doubt about it. It is also the responsibility of the Minister to see that taxes should be reduced to the minimum. Otherwise your exports will fall as quickly as they have gone up. The Allopathy as a whole has a list of system of medicines by which you can correctly or to a great extent predict its behaviour and side effects. But as far as Ayurvedic is concerned, I would like to know what methods are being introduced to make sure that our exports and sale in the international market are safe and reliable.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Scheme for boys hostels

*481. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the Annual Report of his Ministry for the year 2000-2001, a sum of Rs. 10.80 crore was allocated for the Scheme for Boys Hostels for the year 2000-2001 out of which only Rs. 32 lakhs have been spent;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a large amount remaining unspent; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to ensure that such situations do not arise in future and the amount allocated for a particular scheme is utilized to the fullest spread over the year?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) While it is a fact the allocation under the scheme of Boys Hostels for Scheduled Tribes was Rs. 10.80 crore during the year 2000-2001, the actual release to the States stood at Rs. 250.70 lakh during that year. The position reflected in the Annual Report for the year 2000-2001 was upto January 31, 2001 only.

(b) Being a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, the releases out of Central allocation were dependent on the State Governments providing 50 per cent of their contribution and also receipt of complete proposals from them, on which adequate response from the States was not received till the end of the financial year.

(c) The Ministry have taken the following steps to improve the situation:

(1) The Ministry convened meetings on 13th and 14th July and 17th August, 2001, with Ministers and Secretaries incharge of Tribal Development of various States wherein, besides other issues, they were also requested to send their proposals under Boys' Hostels scheme in a complete form and that such proposals should include utilization certificates in respect of grants-in-aid released during the previous years and a clear confirmation to the effect that matching provision exists in the State budget to enable quick processing in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for release of grants. This was followed up with State Governments again at different forums.

(2) The officers from the Ministry were also deputed to visit various States/Union Territories frequently to explain various provisions of the scheme to the State Government functionaries to enable them to take optimum advantage of the scheme.

(3) It has also been approved by the Union Government that if a Member of Parliament provides matching share out of Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) as the substitute of the State Share, then Cental Share can be released.

Pendency in cases due to lack of funds

*483. SHRI K.KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Governments have been blamed for pendency for cases in courts because sufficient funds were not made available by State Governments for smooth functioning of the judiciary;

(b) the ratio of High Court Judges per million of population at present;

(c) whether the Law Commission in one of its reports has recommended to increase the number of Judges per million of population; and